

SENIOR MOMENTS

Visit our website at: <https://www.oldguardofwestchester.org>

JULIAN LEVENTHAL

ARTIST



In November, Julian presented the old guard with an amazing exhibit of sketches of our members. He raised several hundred dollars for the Old Guard by selling them to the members.

Last November, I presented to the organization sketches I made of many of the members. Including my own self-portrait. One hundred sketches were completed and displayed.

This was quite a labor-intensive project, having taken over six months to complete. But, to me, it was a labor of love as I received great pleasure and satisfaction from doing it.

The process involved taking a photograph of the subject, having a print made and literally making the sketch based on the photo. All the drawings were done with graphite and charcoal pencils as well as q-tips which I used for shading. Each sketch took me four to six hours to complete.

Following the presentation, many individuals expressed an interest in acquiring the drawings. It was finally decided that they could be purchased for a nominal fee. To date, \$200 has been collected and donated to the Old Guard bank account.

As new individuals join our organization, I plan to make sketches of them and display them for all to see.

Actively seeking new articles. The May issue will feature poetry written by our members. Articles, photos and poems can be emailed to the editor, mholstein@optonline.net or the webmaster, Alan Stern, at web.ogwestchester@gmail.com.



FLORIDA VACATION

Months before the Coronavirus existed, our plans were set to spend the month of March in Florida. Even though it didn't snow much, winter life still became dreary and, as February ended a real dose of cabin fever existed. A change of pace in Florida was what we needed.

Amid the uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic scare, we left Westchester behind on March first. We awaited a full schedule of sightseeing, warm weather, outdoor activities like open-air restaurants, using the development's gym and swimming pool, and photographing scenes from ocean beaches to nature centers with their exotic birds and alligators. March started out with a deluge of political news around the Democratic debates but, soon followed with the realization that this virus was becoming serious news.

In the early days of March, our schedule included spending time with friends and relatives, generally enjoying these times in very good restaurants -- fortunately we were able to enjoy an evening with Old Guard members Max Ganem, Ken Schiffer and Steve Solomon over an excellent Greek dinner. But soon after, things got bad.

We watched the events happening in New Rochelle. Considering that our home is located just two blocks from the center of the virus outbreak, we felt lucky that we had no restrictions on our movements in Florida. Our expectation was that the coronavirus would soon be waning.

The reality hit hard. In one day, restaurant reservations were cancelled, local parks, museums, beaches and tourist attractions were shuttered, and eventually the outdoor pool was closed. Being adaptive, we adjusted to the new simplicity about our movements: we had books to read, and the Metropolitan Opera announced that there would be downstreaming of their past performances each evening. Old Guard Zoom meetings became eagerly anticipated. Meals were now prepared at home, and with social distancing, enjoyed without having company. There was also no place to do photography – even sunsets did not cooperate. After searching for anything related to nature I put together photos of a pair of birds, a friendly iguana, and a butterfly. Forced to spend much time together alone, my wife soon appreciated what a wonderful companion her husband truly is.

Steve Loewengart



JOINING OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

DAVID R. FINCH
COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER

OG Westchester is a Facebook group exclusively for members of Old Guard of Westchester for sharing — anything. The group is “secret”: no outsiders or ads. Accessible only to OG members, which is by invitation only. There are now 21 members.

Haven't joined the community yet? Read on.

To start if you haven't already, join Facebook at www.facebook.com. Once you are a Facebook member, you can join our group by searching for and then sending a “Friend Request” to either david.r.finch.9 or larry.dunkelman.3. Indeed, any group member can invite you to join.

He will soon accept your request. When you show up on his Friends list, he will send you an invitation to join the group. Accept that, and you are in. Go to the drop down menu on your Facebook page, select Groups, and finally OGWestchester. Look for a posting welcoming you aboard. Enjoy!

You can then read, “like”, and comment on postings by other OG members and post your own news, pictures, and jokes.

The more the merrier!

David R. Finch

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING





“APPLES AND ORANGES.”

THE RAMBLINGS OF WALT SCHWARTZ

Apples or Oranges? Apples versus Oranges! Lawyers and religious scholars have been having this debate since the Garden of Eden. Just when one side seems to come up with a solid argument at its core, the other attempts to proffer a juicy rejoinder. Objectively, both inside and out, there's just no comparison. None at all. The winner of this argument is the Apple of my eye. Both eyes, as well as nose and throat.

Therefore, with the Court's permission, on behalf of all Apples, from Macs to Gala to Golden Delicious, I would like to lay out a brief case, with citations from the fields of religion, history, medicine, law and culinary, to quash this seemingly and unseemingly irreconcilable argument.

By definition, an Apple [hereinafter sometimes referred to only by the letter, "A"] is "the round fruit of a tree of the rose family which typically has red or green skin and crisp flesh." (Wikipedia, if not Webster)

Therefore, it is beyond cavil that even by any other name, an Apple would smell so sweet.

On the other hand, an Orange is defined as "a round juicy citrus fruit with a tough reddish-yellow rind," not at all like an Apple, which is soft through and through. (Wikipedia, *supra*)

Religious historians note that the A dates all the way back to the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 13:10; Ezekiel 31)

The Bible recites: "Keep my commandments, and live; as the Apple of thine eyes." (Proverbs 7.2)

Historians further point out that the Apple never falls far from the tree. (Rask: Grammar of the Anglo-Saxon Tongue, 1830)

Neither the best scholars nor the best chefs have been able to pit the Orange's origin and even its orifice is not easily identifiable. (Possibly originally from the orangutan, late 17th century?)

Medical practitioners have stated that an A a day keeps the doctor away. (New England Journal of Medicine, first published in 1812 and repeated by every mother since that time.) Apples against Oranges any day of the week.

Many of the same doctors have long soured on Oranges. (One of my physicians gets canker sores from Oranges. Identity withheld at his request.)

It needs no citation from Johnny Appleseed that the Apple has by far the stronger and the Orange the weaker argument. (John Chapman, 1774-1845)

Not only for taste, but for technology, too, the Apple runs far afield well ahead into the night. For example, Apple invented the Apple Store. Other than Nedick's, the orange has produced little in creativity or ingenuity. [Some may remember the jingle, "Oh my name is Little Nick and let me be precise...." Copies of the entire lyrics upon request.]

I submit that only a juggler would prefer an Orange to an A. (e.g. Michael Moshen; W.C. Fields; and the Karamazov Bros.) Nothing else is even a toss-up and it's fruitless, if not tasteless, to argue otherwise.

Apples against Oranges? Apples against Oranges! Did you ever hear of Oranges against Apples? Certainly not. There's just no comparison.

In conclusion, did your mother ever serve orange sauce for dessert?

Your Honors, I rest my case. Of apples, of course.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Schwartz, Pro Se



The Old Guard of Westchester is a social organization of retired business and professional men who meet for fellowship, recreation, mutual support, and community service. For membership information: 914-428-4218